



*Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation*

January 1984

# NEWSLETTER

ASPHALT SIDING AND SHAG CARPET just don't suit Greek Revival and Queen Anne homes. Neither does the standard design of 1950's landscaping - a heavy foundation planting of evergreens with a small concrete patio out in back.

But until recently there was little understanding of how landscaping had changed during the 19th and early 20th centuries, and little help for home-owners who wanted to renovate their yard along with their house. "Overgrown" or "remuddled" seemed to be the only choices.

All that has changed over the past few years, though, and interest in old-fashioned landscaping has begun to, well, bloom! Accordingly, we are pleased to offer an exciting slide presentation at our ...

---

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, January 24 - 7:30 p.m.

PLACE: The Hutchinson House(High Scope), N. River at E. Forest

SPEAKER: Scott G. Kunst, Historic Landscape Designer

PROGRAM: "Antique Gardens: American Landscaping from  
1830 to 1930

---

The program will outline the changing styles of gardening through the 19th and early 20th centuries, and offer suggestions for people who would like to develop an "old-fashioned" garden, perhaps to fit the historical style of their own house. The program will feature 19th century illustrations as well as gardens from throughout the Midwest, including many in Ypsilanti.

Some of the topics will be pioneer and Greek Revival gardens (to 1860); Downing landscapes (1850-1880); Victorian carpet-bedding (1870-1910); the English perennial garden (1900-1930); the use of vines; picket, cast-iron and woven-wire fences; flowering shrubs, heirloom flowers, fruits, and vegetables; and Victorian garden ornaments.

The slide show has grown out of Scott's efforts to recreate an appropriate landscape for his 1874 folk-style cottage in the Ypsilanti Historic District, and the subsequent opening of his landscape-design business, Old House Gardens. He is currently working on a

"how-to" book on period landscaping and a catalog of old-fashioned seeds, plants, tools, and garden accessories.

He is also working on garden plans for the Towner House, two house museums in Madison, Indiana, and other private gardens in this area.

THE PROGRAM IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - FREE !!

Call your garden loving friends!

Refreshments will be served!

---

#### Major Heritage Foundation Donation Recognized

The Historical Society of Michigan, in its Jan/Feb newsletter, has made note of the \$1,800 donation from the Foundation to the Friends of the Towner House Children's Museum for installation of a new heating system. That amount was to cover about half the cost of the project. More funds are URGENTLY needed to keep the building in operation during the coming months. The Christmas workshops for children and a Holiday Open House entitled "Christmas at the Mayor's House", which involved students from Ypsilanti High School, were highly successful - an important new plus for Ypsilanti.

---

#### NOTEABLE REAL ESTATE LISTINGS:

In an effort to encourage good prospective buyers to invest in Ypsilanti, we will periodically list interesting or significant properties presently on the market, calling them to the attention of our readers, who might pass the word along:

305 Maple: A HF marker structure, this most unusual Queen Anne, now painted warm red with cream trim, is notable for its X-shaped outline and central tower. Listed at \$58,500, Old Town Hall Realty.

318 North Park: A delightful folk-style cottage built just post-Civil War, lovingly rehabilitated by Scott Kunst and wife Jane Raymond, with a lovely, historic garden. Asking price \$39,500, by owner, 482-2188.

If you know of an important structure now on or about to come on the market, call Jack Harris (485-2155) for inclusion in the March NEWSLETTER.

---

#### HF Board Member, JOHN VAN BOLT, Runs for CITY COUNCIL !!

Historic home owner in Ypsilanti since 1974, lawyer, member of the Historic District Commission, and Heritage Foundation board member John Van Bolt has announced his candidacy for City Council for the Fourth Ward. Since, as many readers know, the Van Bolts have been committed to Ypsilanti and to the preservation and improvement of property for a number of years - you may have seen their wonderful Carpenter Gothic house on Home Tour - this is a good time to support a candidate clearly dedicated to a better Ypsilanti. The Primary Election will be decisive, so don't forget - encourage everyone you know living in Ward 4 to vote at Kingston Center (Forest at Adams) on Monday, Feb. 20.

410 Oak: Want a wee cottage - cheap? Have a look at this little charmer, once a one-room school, and imagine what you could do with it, including having Scott Kunst design a cottage garden! Only \$22,900 at Old Town Hall Realty.

712 Emmet: Our most ambitious & loyal marigold sale supporters, Roe & Flossie Bennett, have this one for sale - perfect for an EMU staff member, right next door to the campus! \$55,000, Old Town Hall.



*Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation*

March 1984

# NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 27 - 7:30 p.m.

PLACE: The Hutchinson House (High/Scope)  
600 North River (corner of River and Forest)

SPEAKER: Dr. Albert P. Marshall, Emeritus Professor  
Eastern Michigan University

"Using Oral History as a Background to Ypsilanti's  
Afro-American History"

Professor Marshall, retired educator from Eastern Michigan University, has delved into the history of Afro-Americans in Ypsilanti since his arrival here in 1969. With little upon which to build, he structured his research on oral interviews with selected persons in the area. His collection of over 40 interviews, along with other information gleaned from newspapers, books, and provided by individuals, has now been placed in the Archives of the Ypsilanti Historical Museum. His presentation will include a demonstration of the tape recording process in collecting oral history.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC -- FREE

Refreshments will be served, under the direction of our new Refreshments Chairperson, Dr. Judith Williston. Thanks, Judy, for this important new commitment!

## CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS !

Dr. A. P. Marshall has announced his resignation from the Ypsilanti Historic District Commission in order to take up his new appointment on the Civil Service Commission. Those of us who have worked with A. P. on the HDC know well his integrity and wisdom. We know he will serve the Civil Service Commission with those same fine qualities. Congratulations, A. P., on your new appointment!

#### UPDATE ON WELCH HALL:

The Welch Hall committee still continues to meet but has yet to come to a decision about the fate of Welch Hall (1896). The structure was apparently one of the topics of discussion at a recent Regents' retreat in Lansing. The Eastern Echo (March 14) reports that Robert Romkema, Vice President for Business & Finance, reported that there is "great sentimental value" attached to the building and that the Welch Hall committee "is being very objective".

Romkema also said, however, that the initial response from students and alumni appears to be that of "disinterest". Perhaps it's time to ask how much information has been disclosed about the history, architectural value, and economic merit of the oldest building on campus. NOW is the time to challenge the charge of "disinterest". Write to the Eastern Echo, The Editor, EMU, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

#### NEW MEMBER:

Diane Wilson, Dept of English, EMU  
Diane, a graduate student in Historic Preservation, has been a major contributor to the sesquicentennial celebration newspaper for Canton Township, Time Capsule Edition. Her historical research is impressive. Let's lure her into working on Ypsilanti history projects! Welcome, Diane.

#### MIRACLE ON ST. JOHN'S STREET:

The next time you're in the area of the EMU campus, turn up St. John's from Lowell and take a look at the miracle that has taken place there. The one surviving Victorian house.

#### REAL ESTATE: WE MADE A SALE !!

Those of you who saw the Jan. issue of the Newsletter know that we have begun to list interesting or significant properties presently on the market, in an effort to increase awareness of the possibilities for prospective buyers of real estate in Ypsilanti. We hope to encourage more home ownership and owner occupancy of rental property in our community.

Well, already we have had success! Warren Lewis has bought the "wee cottage" at 410 Oak, an old school-house. Congratulations, Warren! (Home Tour in 1985?)

#### MORE REAL ESTATE LISTINGS:

504 N. Hamilton: Barry & Diane LaRue's former home (a Home Tour house), an 1889 modified Queen Anne. Duplex efficiency apartment provides income. Beautiful woodwork, wallpaper, new kitchen & bath. Fenced backyard. \$46,500. Call Tom Warner, Old Town Hall Realty.

312 Washtenaw: Clapboard classic - over 100 years old. Hardwood floors, 4-5 bedrooms, 1½ baths, fiberglass insulation, new plumbing. \$53,000. Call Bill Miller, Old Town Hall.

408 Emmet: Here is a house with old-time character & charm, small enough & practical enough to be sensible for today. Lovely natural woodwork, fireplace, sun-filled dining room, with bay window facing west. Basement with enormous potential, garden space on corner lot. Washer, dryer, freezer stay, \$47,000. Call Barbara Johnston, Charles Reinhart Realtor, 665-0300.

#### MIRACLE ON ST. JOHN'S STREET:

The next time you're in the area of the EMU campus, turn up St. John's from Lowell and take a look at the miracle that has taken place there. The one surviving Victorian house, which in recent years had fallen into a shambles and finally burned, has been restored and is now painted a gleaming white. No details about the restoration are known at this time except that the owner is James Johnson of Middle Drive, Ypsilanti, that the house will probably be rented to students, and that the contractor is J. Abramson Co. of Oak Park. Mr. Boston Pritchard & Mr. Bill Foster have been in charge of the restoration.

To all concerned - THANK YOU!

#### COMING ATTRACTION:

The 3rd Annual Buffet Pot Luck Dinner will be held this year on Tuesday, May 22, at 6:00 p.m., at the Ladies Literary Club, 218 N. Washington.

The special event of the evening will be the Annual Presentation of Historic Structure Markers. The owners of marker buildings will be our special, honored guests.

Anyone (member or non-member) wishing to attend, please call Sandy Knight at 483-5749.

fireplace, sun-filled dining room, with bay window facing west. Basement with enormous potential, garden space on corner lot. Washer, dryer, freezer stay, \$47,000. Call Barbara Johnston, Charles Reinhart Realtor, 665-0300.

#### YPSILANTI HISTORIC DISTRICT

- MANY NATIONALLY KNOWN HOMES -  
AMONG THEM THIS HOME ON ADAMS STREET



3,000 square feet of living space, 2 fireplaces, living, dining and family rooms, hardwood floors, 3 bedrooms, 2 kitchens, one bedroom apartment on third floor, four car garage, and large backyard with winding walk. This has the potential to be one of the area's truly great homes!! Priced in 60's!!

A MEMBER OF THE SEARS FINANCIAL NETWORK

**COLDWELL  
BANKER**

**OLD TOWN HALL  
REALTY**

An Independently Owned and Operated Member of Coldwell Banker Residential Affiliates, Inc.

**TOM WARNER**

Residence **483-7461**

Ypsilanti **485-7600**

300 N. HURON

### INSTREET PROGRAM DOWNTOWN:

The Mainstreet Program, sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, has been responsible for many revitalization programs in towns across the country. Now Ypsilanti joins those communities committed to developing a coordinated plan for bringing life back into downtown. The program deals not only with physical appearance but also management structure, financing, & marketing. It encourages development of new business on the basis of community needs. The Downtown Development Authority has agreed to fund the hiring of a professional coordinator to develop the plan for downtown Ypsilanti.

### NEWS SUMMARY from NATIONAL TRUST:

Administration Budget Zeroes  
Out Historic Preservation For  
The Fourth Year

Washington, D.C., February 23 ...

For the fourth year, the Reagan Administration has failed to recommend any federal budget for the Historic Preservation Fund. The Fund is used to make matching grants to the states and the National Trust for Historic Preservation to do the work of preserving America's heritage.

"I am very disappointed that the Administration has ignored the strong commitment of both the American people and their representatives in the Congress to this program," said Michael L. Ainslie, president of the National Trust. "Do they believe that this country cannot afford 26 ten thousandths of one percent of the Federal budget for the preservation & revitalization of our heritage?" That is the percentage of the total federal budget for fiscal year 1985 - \$925 billion - represented by last year's Congressional appropriation - \$26.5 million, Ainslie explained.

The fiscal year 1984 appropriation of \$26.5 million included \$21.5 million

### HOME TOUR PLANS UNDERWAY:

Planning for the 1984 Annual Historic Homes Tour, sponsored by the Foundation, got underway last month. Members of the committee are Chair Jane Van Bolt, Jack Harris, Jane Bird, and Bill Nickels. Chief guides are already committed & buildings are being selected. This is not a decorators' home tour - this is the REAL THING - an exciting, inside look at preservation, renovation and adaptive re-use projects going on right now in our great city! Plan now to participate in and to publicize this important contribution to the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival. Watch for details in the May Newsletter. **DOZENS OF VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!** Please call Jane Van Bolt, 483-6972.

con't.

historic rehabilitation to finance the rehabilitation of their buildings. "We are confident that the Congress will understand the problems of such building owners and help address this important but unmet need."

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a national, private, non-profit membership organization dedicated to the protection and continued use of significant buildings, districts, sites and objects in America.

**MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!**

Write now to . . .

Sen. Carl M. Levin  
140 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Sen. Donald W. Riegle  
1207 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Rep. William D. Ford (for Ypsilanti)  
239 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The fiscal year 1984 appropriation of \$26.5 million included \$21.5 million for the state historic preservation programs & \$5 million for the National Trust. \$500,000 of the National Trust's allocation is being used for the special Critical Issues Fund, a \$2 million grant program promoting new, cooperative approaches to major development problems.

"We in the historic preservation movement are hopeful that the members of Congress will again demonstrate their commitment to the country's heritage in the appropriations process," added Ainslie. "We will also be working to reinstate funds for the 'bricks-and-mortar' matching grants the Administration eliminated in fiscal 1982. Ainslie explained that these are particularly important to the non-profit groups and public agencies that cannot use the 1981 federal tax incentives for  
con't ...

Washington, D.C. 20515

---

**ADOPT A PLANTER - Call Bill Durant:**

Any individual or group interested in adopting a planter in the downtown area should call Bill Durant of Durant's Flowers. Bill reports that, while most of the planters will be cared for by individual businesses, there are several spots where help is needed from community volunteers. For example, the planter in the parking lot along Ferris Street off S. Huron, the Chandler Fountain area near the Library, and city parking lots generally. This would be a gesture of community commitment to the downtown & would be seen as a definite plus to those downtown businessmen like Bill who are working hard to make the place a success. Planting will be about mid-May.

---



### HISTORIC EAST SIDE WALKING TOUR:

Peckville, Oak Street, the Hutchinson Mansion, & the old-fashioned garden of Bill & Genie Knudstrup are all featured on this year's guided walking tour of Ypsilanti's Historic East Side.

Celebrating National Historic Preservation Week, the guided walk will be on Sunday, May 6, with small groups leaving every quarter-hour between 1:00 and 3:00 from the old passenger depot in Depot Town (N. River at E. Cross). 13

Peckville is one of the oldest areas in Ypsilanti, centered on the Peck farmstead which dates from 1827. Oak Street features a full range of 19th century homes, including Knudstrup's Greek Revival with its beautifully landscaped 200-foot-deep backyard. The Hutchinson Mansion, now headquarters for High/Scope Education Research Foundation, was the turn-of-the-century home of Byron Shelley Hutchinson, founder of S&H Green Stamps. This beautifully-preserved, thirty-three room mansion set in parl-like grounds is noted for ornate wood and plasterwork, stained glass, a porte-cochere, ballroom, conservatory, and a dining room modeled after one in Kaiser Wilhelm's castle.

Specially trained guides will point out architectural styles and details on the walk, as well as features of city and neighborhood history, much of which is related to the railroad and the Huron River. Guides will also show tour-goers through the Knudstrup's garden and the Hutchinson Mansion.

The walk is sponsored by the Historic East Side Association and it is free.

For more information, call 484-3425

### **FOR SALE:**

Victorian picture frame, excellent condition, 7 3/4" x 9 3/4" opening. \$5

Antique sled. \$30

Call Jane Bird, 482-8989

### TOWNER HOUSE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM PROGRAMS SCHEDULED:

The Heritage Foundation funds which went to install a new furnace in the Towner House have already proven a particularly wise investment. After a series of highly successful Christmas programs and a rewarding and busy Valentine workshop (on Feb. 11, when the house was full of intensely busy little hands and heads, all engrossed in the business of creating historic valentines, jumping jacks, and other traditional items), Judy White now announces two more new & exciting workshops for children:

Saturday, March 24  
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

### WORKSHOP on the Living History of Children's Toys and Games:

This will be a hands-on group participation activity conducted by Marge Mitchell of Plymouth. Marge - for those who missed her brilliant talk to the Foundation in Sept - is the finest authority known to us on the subject of making history come alive for children. ANYONE WHO HAS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPOSE THEIR CHILD TO MARGE'S TEACHING SHOULD NOT MISS IT! Please tell friends & neighbors about this important event.

--- AND ---

The EMU Theatre of the Young will offer a dramatization of The History of Children's Games. This should prove a treat! Don't let those kids you love miss it!

Saturday, April 14  
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

### WORKSHOP: FUN WITH PUPPETS, A Living History Presentation by EMU's Theatre of the Young

There is no charge for any of the programs at the Towner House. All are welcome. Simply show up at 303 N. Huron, across the street from Old Town Hall.





*Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation*

MAY 1984

# NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 22, 1984 - 6:30 p.m.  
PLACE: LADIES' LITERARY CLUB, 118 North Washington (corner Emmet)  
SPECIAL EVENT: 3rd Annual Awards Banquet - Pot Luck Style  
HISTORIC STRUCTURE MARKER AWARDS

In the May 1975 issue of this little newsletter only a small note records the historic inauguration of our now well-known Historic Structure Marker Award program. They were, apparently, then called "Recognition Markers", and Dottie Disbrow was chairperson of a distinguished committee of judges: Evangeline Lewis, Doyne Wolfe, and Omer and Elsie Robbins. Six buildings received markers: "These will be our first presentations and plans call for about the same number of presentations following each of our quarterly meetings".

While our number of meetings soon expanded to five (January was added in 1977), our marker program has remained essentially as it was conceived.

For the past ten years, then, a special committee of the Heritage Foundation has taken the responsibility of searching out those structures in Ypsilanti which they believe merit "Historic Structure" marker awards. Since the essential purpose of the program is to encourage restoration and maintenance of properties, the committee members must become eagle-eyes of the community, searching out those buildings which show either consistently excellent maintenance or especially fine restoration or renovation work recently done. For the owner, the marker is a BIG THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE; for others, especially visitors to our increasingly recognized historic town, it says WE KNOW WE HAVE SOMETHING SPECIAL AND WE'RE PROUD OF IT!

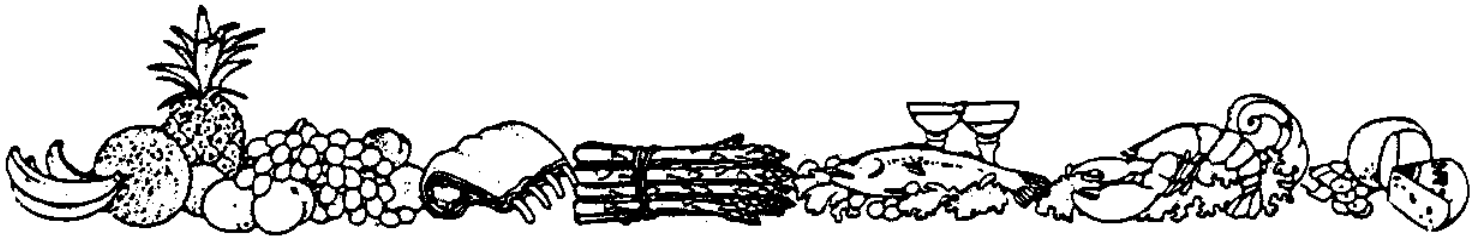
Don Randazzo, Chairperson, with his committee, Bill Nickels, Jane Bird, and Sandy Knight, have selected from a long list of prospective marker properties a list of eight to receive awards this spring. The Foundation Board has approved and owners have accepted receipt of the markers under conditions laid down by the Foundation. Now comes the Banquet and the Awards Ceremony. How could you miss it?

The membership list will be used to call and arrange for a variety of tasty dishes. If for any reason you have not been called - WHETHER YOU ARE A MEMBER OR NOT - and you wish to attend this special historic event, simply give Sandy a call at 483-5749.

(Marker recipients are NOT, of course, expected to bring a dish, since they are our special guests!)

The owners of the following buildings will be awarded Historic Structure Markers and will be our very special GUESTS OF HONOR:

Mr. Tom Conway	The Old Fire Station (Historic Car Museum) West Cross at Washington
Mrs. Mame Lamson	114 Woodward (c. 1895)
First Congregational Church	214 North Adams (c. 1898)
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Diepenhorst	209 North Summit (c. 1860)
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Webster	332 Oak (c. 1860)
Mr. John Madden	96 Oakwood (c. 1920)
Mr. Steve Gross & Ms. Linda French	The Depot Exchange (c. 1870)
Mr. William Durant	Durant's Flowers, 115 West Michigan (c. 1900)



Remember, dinner at 6:30 - no business meeting, no speaker, just a social gathering where everyone can exchange views about what's happening in our town - and lots of good things are happening! Join us!!

---

#### YPSILANTI HERITAGE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED AT EMU

The Foundation has again awarded a \$500 scholarship to an EMU student. Cynthia Martin, a major in historic preservation, has been recommended by Dr. Marshall McLennan, Director of the Historic Preservation Program, and accepted by the Board of the Foundation as this year's recipient. Cynthia presently serves as intern to the Historic District Commission. The scholarship will ensure that she will continue serving as Commission intern and as liason between the Community Development Department and the Commission through August 1984.

---

#### FESTIVAL KICK-OFF:

The Festival 1984 Kick-Off Party, held May 6 at Aubree's Upstairs, was a delightful send-off for this year's event, to be held Aug. 24-25-26. Volunteers are needed, so call the Chamber of Commerce if you want to be part of the fun. NOTE: Special thanks should go to Lynda Hummel for her exciting slide presentation of the demolition of the old Cross Street bridge. We hope that more people will be able to see this program at some later date. Thanks for recording this bit of our history, Lynda!

---

#### STATE AWARD for YPSILANTI:

Nathalie Edmunds, co-chair of the Heritage Festival, has received a letter from Governor Blanchard, in which he announced, "It is my great pleasure to inform you that I am naming the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival as an Embassy of Tourism". The award is one of five presented this year and is based upon the contribution that the Heritage Festival has made to tourism in the state over the past several years. Nat will accept the award from the Governor on behalf of the Festival Committee at the First Annual Governor's Conference on Tourism at the Hyatt-Regency in Flint, May 14.

---

#### THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY OF AMERICA TO VISIT YPSILANTI IN JUNE !!

Watch your local newspaper for more information about this event!

---

#### NAT EDMUNDS RECEIVES AWARD:

Nathalie Edmunds has received congratulations for her volunteer work in the community from the President of the Greater Michigan Foundation in Lansing. She is one of ten recipients state-wide to receive the Volunteer Leadership Award for 1984, to be presented by the Governor in Marshall, May 22. Congratulations, Nat - we know how much you deserve it!

### IDGE BALLUSTER SALE A SUCCESS

Thanks to the hard work of Foundation volunteers and the commitment of Sue Remien-Fejes, Director of Community Development for the City of Ypsilanti, and with cooperation from Greenfield Construction Company, builders of the new Cross Street Bridge, the balusters from the old (1910) bridge were saved and most have been sold.

The Foundation has ear-marked profits from the sale for the scholarship fund, and therefore all profits received from the sale will directly benefit the city. Thanks to those who worked so diligently at the sale! Yet another bit of BEAUTIFUL OLD YPSILANTI was saved and the city and the Foundation have benefited in the process!

### MAJOR CONFERENCE COMING TO YPSILANTI

A five-state, regional historic preservation conference will take place Sept. 28-29 at the Hoyt Conference Center on the EMU campus.

Co-sponsored by the National Trust of Historic Preservation, the National Alliance of Preservation Commission, and the Michigan Historic District Commissions Network, conference subjects will include design issues and administration of historic districts and historic district ordinances. Speakers will be drawn from across the country.

We are proud to be able to host this important event. Volunteers will be needed for a variety of activities as the conference nears - please keep those dates in mind so that you will be free to participate!

### REAL ESTATE LISTINGS:

### ANNUAL HISTORIC HOME TOUR:

With pleasure and pride, we announce the homes and apartments which will be open during the 1984 Historic Home Tour:

Bettie and Tom Dodd  
46 East Cross

Sharon Morris  
46 East Cross

John & Melissa Schneider  
411 North Huron

Constance Crump & Russ Procacini  
409 North Adams

Bonnie Deutsch & Ed Penet  
108 North Huron

Sioux Shelton  
14 South Huron

The Beyer House Apartments (2)  
203 North Huron

Chief Guides have been appointed. If you would like to volunteer as a tour guide (& thereby receive a free ticket for the tour), call Jane Van Bolt, 483-6972.

TOUR: Sunday, August 26, Noon-5:00 p.m.



#### REAL ESTATE LISTINGS:

323 Oak: Late 19th Century house (c. 1896) in central area of Historic District on the east side; splendidly renovated, with \$20,000 addition in 1981-82; finest quality kitchen with Jenn-Air, built-ins and oak cupboards; stone fireplace, with wood burning unit which heats entire new section. Original part of house restored inside and out. Featured in February issue of Ann Arbor News Homes section. Call 662-5846.

On Sheridan: Near EMU campus, room for rent in historic home, built 1840; share the many fine features of this historic house; fenced back yard, sunporch. Call 662-5846.

411 North Huron: Italianate house, adjacent to the Lewis museum property; 3 units - two one-bedroom, one two-bedroom. Newly refurbished exterior and interior. In Historic District. \$72,000. Call Tom Warner at Old Town Hall Realty, 485-7600 or 483-7461.

103 North Adams: Venerable, painted brick Gothic Revival mansion in Historic District, built c. 1856. Owner-occupied with 2 income apartments; hardwood floors, inlaid with walnut; three fireplaces, marble; chandeliers; private fenced backyard; two car garage; natural gas, new furnace; many energy efficient features. Protected by the Historic District Ordinance and superbly maintained! On Heritage Foundation Home Tour, 1980. \$115,000. Call 485-8878.



SPECIAL THANKS to Denis Schmiedeke: Prints of his beautiful drawing of the old Cross Street bridge were sold during the baluster sale at the Freight House and the profits were split between the artist and the Foundation. We are very grateful for Denis' generosity!

TO OUR NEW CITY MANAGER, JAMES W. M. (MATT) HENNESSEE, WELCOME TO YPSILANTI !!





CITY OF YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
1 SOUTH HURON STREET  
YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN 48197

P R O C L A M A T I O N

- WHEREAS: Preservation and rehabilitation have contributed to the economic and social well-being of our cities, towns and communities by increasing the tax bases, decreasing crime and creating solid investment opportunities in historic districts and neighborhoods; and
- WHEREAS: Preservation increases the value of the public's investment in historic public and private buildings, streets, sidewalks and parks, and affords basic shelter requirements to vast numbers of low-and moderate-income households; and
- WHEREAS: Preservation makes good financial sense through the rehabilitation and reuse of well constructed historic buildings and improves them, thereby prolonging their years in service; and
- WHEREAS: PRESERVATION IS TAKING CARE OF AMERICA, is the theme for Preservation Week 1984, cosponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the local preservation and neighborhood organizations in Ypsilanti, Michigan.


NOW, THEREFORE, I, PETER J. MURDOCK, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI, do hereby proclaim May 13-19, 1984, as

" PRESERVATION WEEK "

in the City of Ypsilanti and call upon the people of Ypsilanti to recognize and participate in this special observance.



Given under my hand and seal of  
the City of Ypsilanti, this 1st  
day of May, 1984.

  
Peter J. Murdock  
Mayor

"WHERE COMMERCE AND EDUCATION MEET"



## *Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation*

September 1984

# NEWSLETTER

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, September 25, 7:30 p.m.

**PLACE:** YPSILANTI ANTIQUE AUTO, TRUCK & FIRE MUSEUM  
(Old Fire Station)  
100 West Cross (corner of Washington)

**SPEAKER:** Mr. Tom D. Conway, Owner and Curator of the Museum

Mr. Conway was one of the first to take the plunge in purchasing an historic property from the City when its holdings in the North Huron Street area came up for sale several years ago. He must be credited, therefore, for an important part in the renaissance of central Ypsilanti. Not only did he save Ypsilanti's historic fire station from some certainly poorer fate, perhaps even demolition, but he also transformed it into one of our most important museum properties - albeit a private museum, open only for special occasions.

The next special occasion for which the Fire Museum will be open (after Heritage Festival, of course) will be the meeting of the Heritage Foundation, open to the public, free. Mr. Conway will host our first fall meeting and talk with us about his unique vehicle collection and his renovation of the old fire station as a perfect setting for it. After a tour of the ground floor, we will meet upstairs. This will be a unique opportunity to hear first hand from Mr. Conway about his collection and about the property in which it is housed. You can't get much closer to the subject of historic preservation than that !

Refreshments will be provided by the Foundation - Dr. Judith Williston is our new refreshments hostess.

PLEASE TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT THIS FUN AND INFORMATIVE MEETING. Mr. Conway radiates enthusiasm. "I'm going ... You come, too", as Robert Frost invited. We know you won't be disappointed !

1985 HISTORIC STRUCTURE ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR - NOW ON SALE - STILL ONLY \$3.00 !!!

The 10th Edition of the Heritage Foundation's Calendar, which features 12 local artists' illustrations of Ypsilanti's architectural heritage, will be on sale during Festival and at our September meeting, as well as at several local outlets.

This year's Calendar features several E.M.U. campus buildings, including historic Welch Hall, as well as the work of a new (and prominent) local artist, Professor John Loree.

A very beautiful, practical, useful gift - for yourself and friends at Christmas !

YPSILANTI'S NEW MIDTOWN ASSOCIATION GAINS  
MOMENTUM:

The Midtown Association, which includes essentially all of Ward 4, roughly from Summit to North Huron and Forest to West Michigan, took on powerful new status this summer with the election of officers, passage of by-laws, and establishment of three committees to work on specific problem areas: code enforcement, crime, and zoning.

For an update on activities, call Keith Fineberg, President, 482-7148.

ALSO WORTH THE TRIP ...

The stunning restoration of the Board of Realtors building at 47 North Huron. Downtown is looking better all the time !  
Congratulations, and THANKS !!

WORTH WATCHING !!!

The false facade has come down at Ypsi Cycle, 118 West Michigan, and owner Ralph Ellis is in the process of repairing repainting the handsome Gothic Revival building underneath! Just helps to prove what has been claimed all these years - there are a lot of architectural treasures under all that junk on Michigan Ave!

THANKS, Ypsi Cycle, for a splendid improvement to downtown.

JACK HARRIS TO TEACH IN ENGLAND:

The president of the Heritage Foundation will be teaching in England during the fall term this year. His address is:

Arthur J. Harris  
Nonington College  
Nonington, Dover, Kent  
England CT15 4HH

Telephone: 44-840671

MANY thanks to all those who volunteered to work on the Heritage Festival HISTORIC HOME TOUR !!



\$5.00      \$5.00

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP OFFER

\$5.00      \$5.00

The Foundation Board has voted to offer NEW membership at the special rate of \$5.00 for the first year. This includes receipt of the Newsletter and announcements about all special events sponsored by the Foundation. (Regular individual memberships are still \$10, family \$15, students and senior citizens \$3.)

Why not join now? If you are already a member in good standing, now is the time to renew your dues and be assured that you will receive the Newsletter, be invited to the Christmas party, etc.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to:  
Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

Mail to:  
Mary Warner, Treasurer  
510 Roosevelt  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation  
510 Pearl Street  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197





## *Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation*

NOVEMBER 1984

# NEWSLETTER

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, November 27 - 7:30 pm  
**PLACE:** Ladies Literary Club, 218 N. Washington  
(corner of Emmet)  
**SPEAKER:** Denis Schmiedeke, Ypsilanti architect  
**PRESENTATION:** "The Styles of Our Heritage"  
The Historic Architecture of Ypsilanti

We are very pleased to offer the opportunity to see this presentation, first prepared for the five-state historic preservation conference held here in September. "The Styles of Our Heritage" is an overview of 110 years of the historical styles of architecture built in Ypsilanti from 1830 through 1940, and will include 17 nationally recognized styles from the Federal of the 1830s through the Period Revivals of 1920 to 1940. Attention will be given those styles which became popular after 1900, in recognition of a design consciousness which prevailed in this community well beyond the turn of the century.

Using 3 projectors and 3 screens, Denis will present some 100 structures built throughout the city, from Prospect Street to Cornell, from Buffalo to Highland Cemetery. Some of the structures are well known examples of popular styles, others are excellent examples of less known types. This evening is an outstanding opportunity to become more aware of the architectural heritage of Ypsilanti.

Bring friends and neighbors - all are welcome. Refreshments will be provided!

### WELCOME to NEW MEMBERS:

Dennis Durkin  
1186 Stamford  
Ypsilanti

Bonni Rosen-Fine  
27 E. Cross  
Ypsilanti



## 1985 HISTORIC STRUCTURE CALENDAR

Still only \$3.00 !!

### A GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT...

for the kids' teachers, a friend now moved away, favorite neighbors, the mailman, etc, etc, etc!

Buy your calendars at the Nov. 27 meeting, at Meijers, Bailes Pharmacy, Old Town Restaurant, Hon's Flowers, Richardson's, or at the Freight House in Depot Town Dec. 1. (Meijers was particularly helpful by purchasing outright 200 calendars for sale at the Carpenter Rd store. And Washtenaw Kmart contributed \$20 toward calendar production costs.

## PRESERVATION NEWS

Charles Soule and Karl Andrews are to be congratulated on their purchase of Old Town Hall from the National Bank. All buildings continually need the loving care they are sure to give our most impressive Second Empire structure.

While traveling down Michigan Ave, notice the completion of work on the library. Also take time to admire the new paint job on the Hawkins House across the street, and on the Mainstreet Project office in the first block of S. Washington.

## ANNUAL MEETING

November is the month of our annual brief business meeting. The following items of business will require a vote of the general membership:

1. The Board of Directors has recommended that the number of Board members be reduced from 12 to 9.

2. The terms of Jane Bird and Bill Nickels expire this month. Both have agreed to stand for reelection.


3. Denis Schmiedeke was appointed to the Board this past summer by President Jack Harris to an unexpired vacancy.

The general membership will be asked to confirm the reduction in Board size, the reelection of Jane and Bill, and the appointment of Denis.

Instead of children playing soccer, construction equipment has made the noise on Frog Island this fall, and the new amphitheatre is already complete. The recycling center, temporarily removed, will open again at a new site near the Farmers' Market.

And, in Depot Town, admire (and patronize!) the new addition to an old favorite, the Old Town Restaurant.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY !!



Keep Saturday night, December 15, open on your holiday calendar! That is the night of the annual Heritage Foundation Christmas Party. Invitations will be in the mail to all dues paying members.

Dues (\$10 individual, \$15 family) may be sent to Mary Warner, Treasurer, 510 Roosevelt, Ypsilanti.

